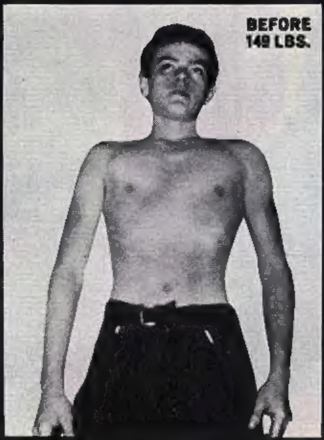
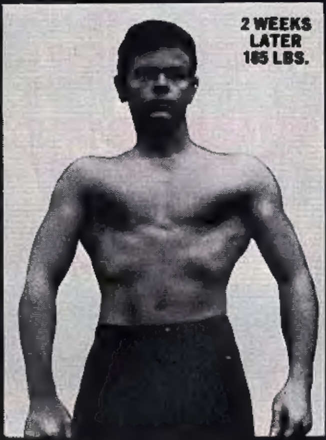
THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!
FANTASTIC FOUR
15¢
100
JULY
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Fantastic Four
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
THIS IS IT! THE SPECTACULAR LONG-AWAITED 100TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!
FEATURING:
VILLAINS! VILLAINS! VILLAINS!

Another JOE WEIDER breakthrough:

THE END OF THE SKINNY BODY.





GAINS UP TO 16 POUNDS IN 14 DAYS—

adds 2¼" to each arm, 2¼" to his chest!

Walter Leno of Burlington, Vt. reported these fantastic gains in 14 days! Gains 16 pounds, added 2¼" to each arm, 2¼" to his chest, 1½" to each leg. See what a fresher, more exciting fun-going body he now has—thanks to **Crash Weight Formula #7**. He says, "All I did was follow the plan and drink a few small glasses of delicious **Crash Weight Formula #7**—and the improvement I made in just 14 days was beyond my wildest dreams!" **Shouldn't this happen to you?**

Nobody likes a bag of bones

Flesh out your bones. Fill out your narrow, shallow chest. Your skinny arms. And spindly legs. Here's a totally new breed of nutritional "wildcat" drink that's guaranteed to put an end to your muscle-starved, hungry-looking body. Joe Weider's **Crash-Weight Formula #7** is a new scientifically-blended milkshake-flavored drink that lets you drink on as much as up to 14 pounds in 14 days the easy, the delicious, the relaxed way. Just drink 4 zestful glasses of Crash-Weight natural organic with your regular meals and take in up to 3500 **extra** calories a day. (It's the calories that count when you want to put on some handsome weight!) And Crash-Weight does all the work for you. Piling on the pounds and the weight as the days go by. Check the plan you want in the coupon.

Guaranteed to put weight on you and create a new—fresher—more exciting fun-going you or money back!

JOIN THE WEIGHT GAINABLES! DRINK ON NEW POUNDS—FAST! SAFELY!

The Do-It-Yourself Gain-A-Pound-A-Day Kit

This is a 1 day supply of **Crash Weight**, chock full of weight-gaining nutrients that can smash the weight-gaining barrier! You want to gain a pound a day? Half a pound a day? Maybe you just want to add a few pounds here and there? You want it easily—enjoyably—without stuffing yourself with heavy-as-lead foods. Now you can. It's as simple as drinking a delicious milkshake.

FREE:

Weight-Gaining and Muscle-Building Course. This 48-page illustrated Guide sent FREE with each Crash-Weight Formula #7 Kit. Crammed with step-by-step instructions in muscle-building and weight-gaining basics. Filled with all the latest ideas and how to adapt them for your own personal, fun-going weight gains!

Fill in this Gain-A-Pound-A-Day-or-Your-Money-Back Guarantee Coupon

JOE WEIDER, Dept. 83-60K10
531-32nd St., Union City, N.J. 07087

Dear Joe:
I want to put an end to my skinny body and have everyone compliment me on my athletic appearance and muscular gains. Rush me the "pound-a-day" Crash-Weight Formula #7 package I have checked below.

Check Plan & Flavor Desired:
☐ **7-Day Supply . . . $ 7.50** ☐ **Chocolate**
☐ **14-Day Supply . . . $14.98** ☐ **Vanilla**

If it doesn't work, I want my money back. OK?

NAME AGE

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

Canadian orders filled in Canada—no duty to pay.

SERVICEMEN: TO SPEED YOUR ORDER, U. S. Regulations require that shipments to servicemen be prepaid — Please add indicated amount as required by your APO or FPO address.

APO or FPO	N.Y.	or S.F.
CRASH-WEIGHT (7-Day	.80	$1.75
CRASH-WEIGHT (14-Day)	1.10	2.75

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IT WAS YOU CRYS! YOU SAVED THEM!
YES, IT IS I WHO HAVE DONE IT!
TAKE MY HAND SUE...LEST YOU DRIFT AWAY!
I DON'T GIT IT, KID! YOU SOME KINDA WITCH OR SOMETHIN'?
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN CRYSTAL'S ELEMENTAL POWER, BEN?
SHE MERELY MADE THE AIR CURRENTS HEAVY ENOUGH--TO SUPPORT US!
AND, IN SO DOING... HELPED SAVE OUR LIVES!
BEN! WHERE'S THE TORCH? DO YOU SEE HIM?
NOT YET, STRETCH! HE WENT FLYIN' OFF TA FIND WHAT IT WUZ THAT SHOT US DOWN!
HEY! THERE'S THE SIGNAL! HE MUSTA FOUND WHAT HE WUZ LOOKIN' FOR!
IT'S COMING FROM JUST OVER THAT RISE!
SO LET'S MOVE!
THERE HE IS! HE'S FOUND THE SAUCER'S WRECKAGE!
THIS BABY'S NEVER GONNA FLY AGAIN!
BUT WHO DID IT? ..AND HOW?

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

SKIN SURFACE DISFIGURED BY PIMPLES? BLACKHEADS? FRECKLES?

Blemishes Fade As Skin Clears

AMAZING NEW SKIN CREAM SO POWERFUL IT STARTS HELPING TO CLEAR EPIDERMIS THE INSTANT APPLIED!

Works with Nature Replacing Epidermis Marked by Surface Pimples and Blackheads with a New Fresh, Clearer, Softer, Smoother Complexion!

It takes POWER to dry up pimples . . . to loosen blackheads . . . to fade freckles . . . to clear away blemished epidermis (skin surface). So why mess around with watery lotions, weak medicated make-ups . . . smelly salves and greasy ointments when it's FAYD SKIN CREAM that you need. Fayd contains a powerful clearing and skin whitening discovery that works strong and fast on the externally caused pimples, blackheads, blemishes, marks, freckles and spots that blot and dot the top skin layer. In 7 days Fayd may make your complexion so much more clear, fair and blemish free you want to jump for happiness. Fayd makes the skin softer, smoother and more glowing with the fresh new look of youth. And occasional use of Fayd helps keep your skin looking more lovely everyday to your pride and joy.

SEND FOR YOUR DEMONSTRATION TODAY

If the pimple cream you are using works too slow, don't wait but send for Fayd Skin Cream. Let this actual home demonstration show you what Fayd is . . . how it works fast . . . and why so many boys, girls, men and women use it, for outbreaks . . . for freckles . . . for lightening, brightening and clearing the skin. Fayd acts on both oily skin areas around the nose and also on dry skin areas. It refines enlarged pores. Helps stop many new blemishes before they start. So take advantage of this amazing home demonstration offer. Mail the coupon today.

MAIL THIS NO-RISK COUPON

Fayd, called by many "nature's clear skin cream", is pure white and won't stain pillows. Delightful, easy, it has no medicated odor, washes off completely, leaves skin feeling so new that make-up looks far more natural . . . if you need make-up at all! For your trial and approval we offer the full size 3 oz. jar Fayd for only $3.00 full price postpaid. Use the entire supply and then if you aren't satisfied, simply return the empty jar for your money back. Accept this test at our risk offer. Clip the coupon, and mail today.

IMPORTANT

If the coupon has already been clipped, send order with your name and address. Ask for Fayd's $3.00 Trial Offer. Mail to Fleetwood Co., Dept. D 87, 427 W. Randolph St., Chicago, Illinois 60606.

THE FLEETWOOD CO. Dept. D-87
427 W. Randolph St.
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Send the 3 oz. jar of FAYD SKIN CREAM as checked below. As advertised, you guarantee I can return the empty jar at any time and you will refund my purchase price.

- ☐ $3.00 enclosed. Send postage paid.
- ☐ Enclosed is $1.00 deposit. Send C.O.D. for balance of $2.00 plus postage.

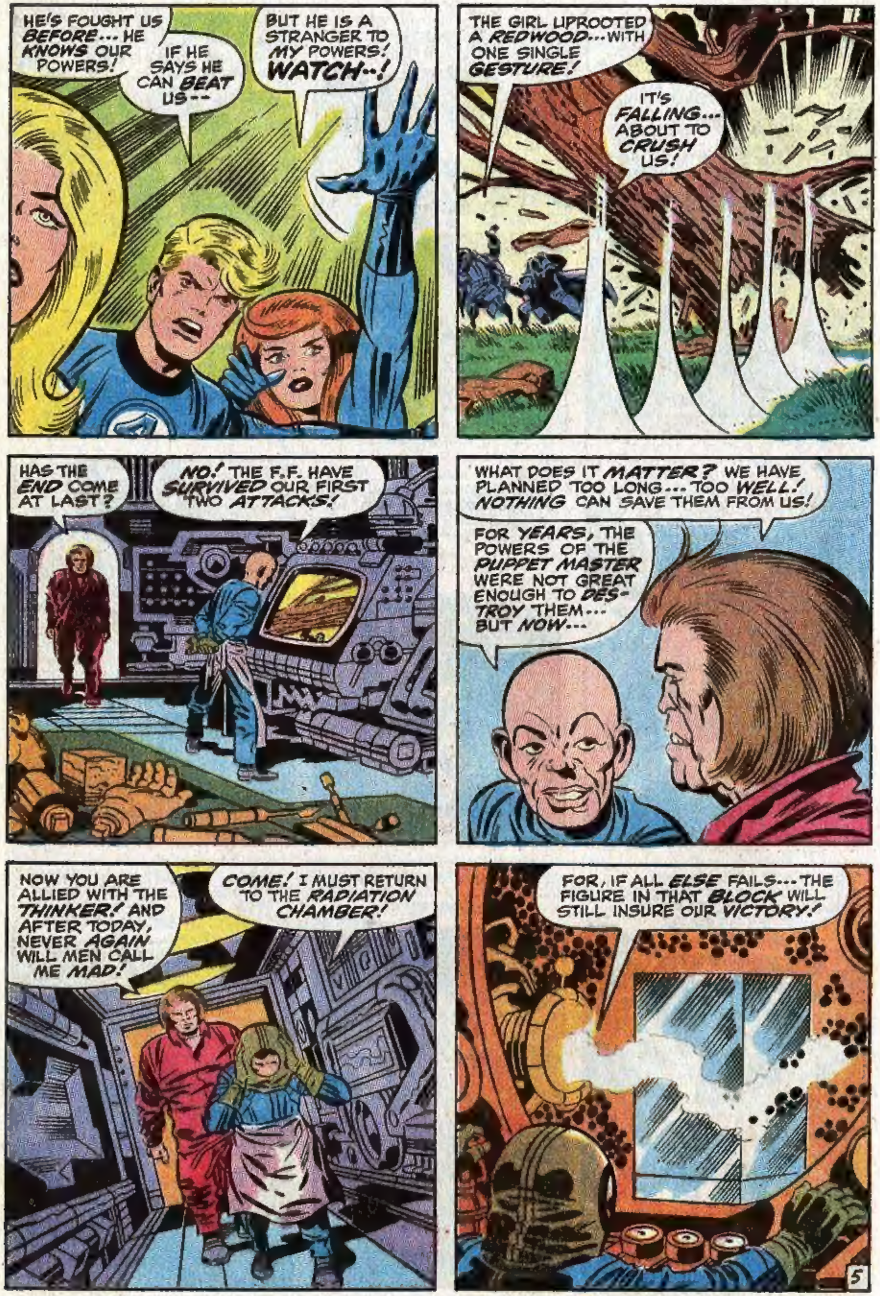
Name____________________

Address____________________

City____________________

State__________ Zip Code__________

I SEE HIM TOO! IT... IT'S KANG ... THE CONQUEROR!
I CAN DROP MY FORCE FIELD NOW, DARLING! THE FOREST IS STILL AGAIN!
BUT HOW WILL WE STRIKE BACK AT KANG?
LEAVE 'IM TA ME, SUSIE!
I'VE WAITED FER YEARS TA LEAN ON THE BUM!
BEN! LOOK OUT!
HEY! HOW DID HE DO THAT?
I DIDN'T TAKE MY PEEPERS OFFA HIM FER A MINNIT!
THAT WAS YOUR MISTAKE, THING! YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN WATCHING... ME!
DOC DOOM!
I DESPISE INFORMALITY!
MY FULL TITLE IS DOCTOR!
NOW, WHILE YOU PONDER THE PROBLEM OF WHETHER KANG AND MYSELF ARE TWO SEPARATE BEINGS...
... MY SELF-CONTAINED MISSILE SHALL CONCLUDE THIS CHARADE... FOREVER!
QUICK THINKING, MRS. RICHARDS!
BUT YOUR FORCE FIELD WILL BE BROKEN BY MY NEXT ATTACK!
4


HE'S FOUGHT US BEFORE... HE KNOWS OUR POWERS!
IF HE SAYS HE CAN BEAT US--
BUT HE IS A STRANGER TO MY POWERS! WATCH--!
THE GIRL UPROOTED A REDWOOD...WITH ONE SINGLE GESTURE!
IT'S FALLING... ABOUT TO CRUSH US!
HAS THE END COME AT LAST?
NO! THE F.F. HAVE SURVIVED OUR FIRST TWO ATTACKS!
WHAT DOES IT MATTER? WE HAVE PLANNED TOO LONG... TOO WELL! NOTHING CAN SAVE THEM FROM US!
FOR YEARS, THE POWERS OF THE PUPPET MASTER WERE NOT GREAT ENOUGH TO DESTROY THEM... BUT NOW...
NOW YOU ARE ALLIED WITH THE THINKER! AND AFTER TODAY, NEVER AGAIN WILL MEN CALL ME MAD!
COME! I MUST RETURN TO THE RADIATION CHAMBER!
FOR, IF ALL ELSE FAILS... THE FIGURE IN THAT BLOCK WILL STILL INSURE OUR VICTORY!
5

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #100: The sensational 100th-anniversary ish you've been waiting for—with more super-villains than any mag, at any time, anywhere!

SPIDER-MAN #86: A startled Spidey faces a foe whose powers resemble his own! She's the new, beautiful, breath-taking Black Widow!

SILVER SURFER #17: How can the Surfer defeat Nick Fury and all the fighting forces of Shield—before unholy Mephisto triumphs at last?

AVENGERS #77: For hire—the mighty Avengers! The day you thought would never come! Plus—a sinister new mystery villain!

THOR #177: Our great wrap-up issue! See Asgard saved from destruction! See the rescue of Odin! See the battle between Thor and giant Surtur!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #127: If Cap has turned traitor—those who love him most must destroy him! And wait'll you see the deadly, super-powerful X-4!

DAREDEVIL #65: They call him Brother Brimstone—but don't laugh at him—and don't turn your back on him! Plus—a new life for Karen Page!

HULK #129: Our green-skinned goliath fights for his life against the unstoppable, revenge-crazed Glob! It's the rematch you've been waiting for!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #21: It had to happen! Mar-Vell takes on the incredible Hulk at last—in the middle of a riot-torn campus!

IRON MAN #27: A story ripped from today's screaming headlines! How does Iron Man defeat the new kind of menace they call—the Firebrand?

SUB-MARINER #27: If Namor dares battle the mysterious Commander Kraken, both Dorma and Diane Arliss may die! And yet—battle he must!

SGT. FURY #79: The hard-hitting Howlers tackle a whole castle full of crack Nazi troops—high atop snow-capped Bavarian peaks!

TOWER OF SHADOWS #6: Wally Wood returns—with a swashbuckling spooktacular to set you on your ear! Plust two more eleventh-hour epics!

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #27: Daredevil—the Hulk—the X-Men! With all these super-doers in the same mag—anything can happen!

MARVEL TALES #27: The two greatest youthquakes of all—Spidey and the torrid Torch! Plus the mighty Thor, just to close the generation gap!

AND, OF COURSE—

WHERE MONSTERS DWELL #4—RAWHIDE KID #78—RINGO KID #4—KID COLT OUTLAW #147—MILLIE THE MODEL #184—MAD ABOUT MILLIE #13—LI'L KIDS #1—HOMER THE HAPPY GHOST #5—MY LOVE #6—CHILI #15.

AND, STILL ON SALE—

CHAMBER OF DARKNESS #5: Another King Kirby masterwork! Plus two more macabre tales destined to set moon-gazing back twenty years!

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #27: What can you say about a mag featuring the F.F.—Doc Strange—and Iron Man—except grrrreat!

Not to mention **MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN #9—OUR LOVE STORY #5**—and maybe another mag or two even we've lost track of!

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!! ADD .50¢ FOR CANADIAN AND EUROPEAN ORDERS!! ALLOW 3 TO 4 WEEKS DELIVERY!!

Blow Your Mind With the Greatest Game of All!

Yes...Now YOU Manage All Major League Teams!

YOU Decide On the Line-Ups ... YOU Plot the Strategy, Control the Pitching, Batting, Running. You Decide How You Want Your Outfield Played, Tell Your Men When To Hit, Run, Steal. Yes — Now YOU Manage the Big Leagues!

Baseball Fans Have Gone WILD About BE A MANAGER!

"I have had the game for three years and enjoy playing it." - D G., Illinois

"We have set up a four-team league around my house, where we have just completed a forty game schedule." - G.H., New York

"The game has been the best I have ever played. It has made my dream come true. I know 100 people who have it." - A.S., Texas

"BE A MANAGER is definitely the most enjoyable, accurate baseball game ever manufactured. Some friends of mine played it with me and I bought one." - R.F., New Jersey

Imagine the excitement of a World Series playoff and you'll get just the slightest idea of the THRILL of playing BE A MANAGER! You'll be caught up in baseball as never before...because YOU are the manager! You have real control over all 400 big league players - who actually bat, field, run, pitch according to their playing abilities.

HITTING, FIELDING, RUNNING AS IN REAL LIFE!

With YOU planning strategy, deciding on pinch-hitters, ordering defensive moves - you've still got to be crafty, because every man on your team plays exactly according to his real life quality. He makes errors you've got to watch out for. He may go into a sudden slump and you've got to get him out. He may rush into a red-hot hitting streak you've got to take advantage of; he may become a hero - at the wrong time!

KNOW 400 PLAYERS!

Yes, you'll get to know 400 real life players - on all 20 big league teams - better than anybody in your neighborhood! Because as a MANAGER you've got all the statistics at your fingertips - every man's hits, runs, stolen bases, batting record, etc. With this exciting real knowledge, it is possible for YOU, the manager, to achieve thrilling victories even with a weak team.

GET THE BIG STORY!

Remember: it's always YOUR skill, knowledge, foresight and courage that wins games. Now...BE A MANAGER! Find out all the facts about this greatest of all games - the original, official game.....plus you get THREE FREE GIFTS when you mail the coupon. Do it today!

BE A MANAGER, Dept. MV40
PO Box 98, Springfield Gardens Sta., Jamaica N.Y. 11413

I want to know all about BE A MANAGER; please send me all the exciting details plus THREE FREE GIFTS... (1) Player Card (2) 7 All-Time Baseball Oddities (3) Proposed Roster for 1970 Big League Teams. I enclose 10¢ to cover postage and handling.

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MONSTER S·I·Z·E MONSTERS

7 FEET TALL

In Authentic Colors With GLOW in the DARK EYES

ONLY $1.00

TEN DAY FREE TRIAL

Just imagine your friends shock when they walk into your room and see the "Monster" reaching out—bigger than life-Frankenstein, the original man-made monster, that creation of evil genius that terrorized the world. A giant 7 feet tall, his eyes glow eerily as his hand reaches out—as aweful and sinister as the wildest nightmare. Yes—Frankenstein is 7 feet tall, in authentic colors on durable polyethelene, and so lifelike you'll probably find yourself talking to him. Won't you be surprised if he answers? Comes complete with eyes that glow even in the pitch dark for a special thrilling chill.

Boney the Skeleton. And then there is Boney—stark scary with nothing left but his bare bones. A 7 foot monster out of the grave—his bones white, his eyes staring—even glowing in the dark.

Money Back Guarantee.

Just send $1.00 plus 25c to cover postage and handling for each monster you want. Your money back if not satisfactorily horrified.

Honor House, Dept. [illegible]
Lynbrook, N.Y. 11563

Rush me my 7 foot tall glow in the dark monsters. Send me ☐ Frankenstein ☐ Boney the Skeleton

I enclose $1 plus 25c for postage and handling for each. If I don't get shivers of delight, I can return my purchase within 10 days and you will refund the full purchase price.

NAME ______________________

ADDRESS ______________________

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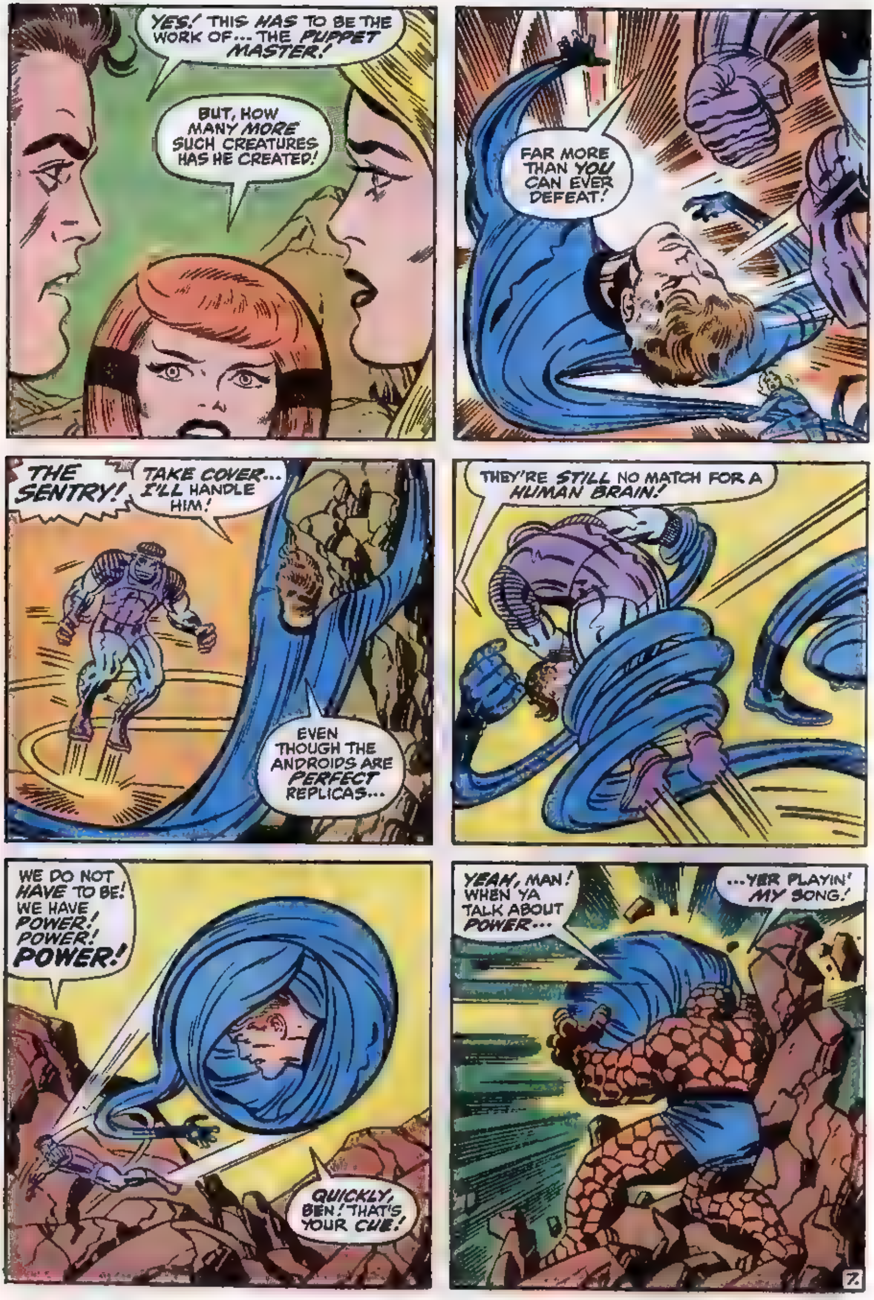
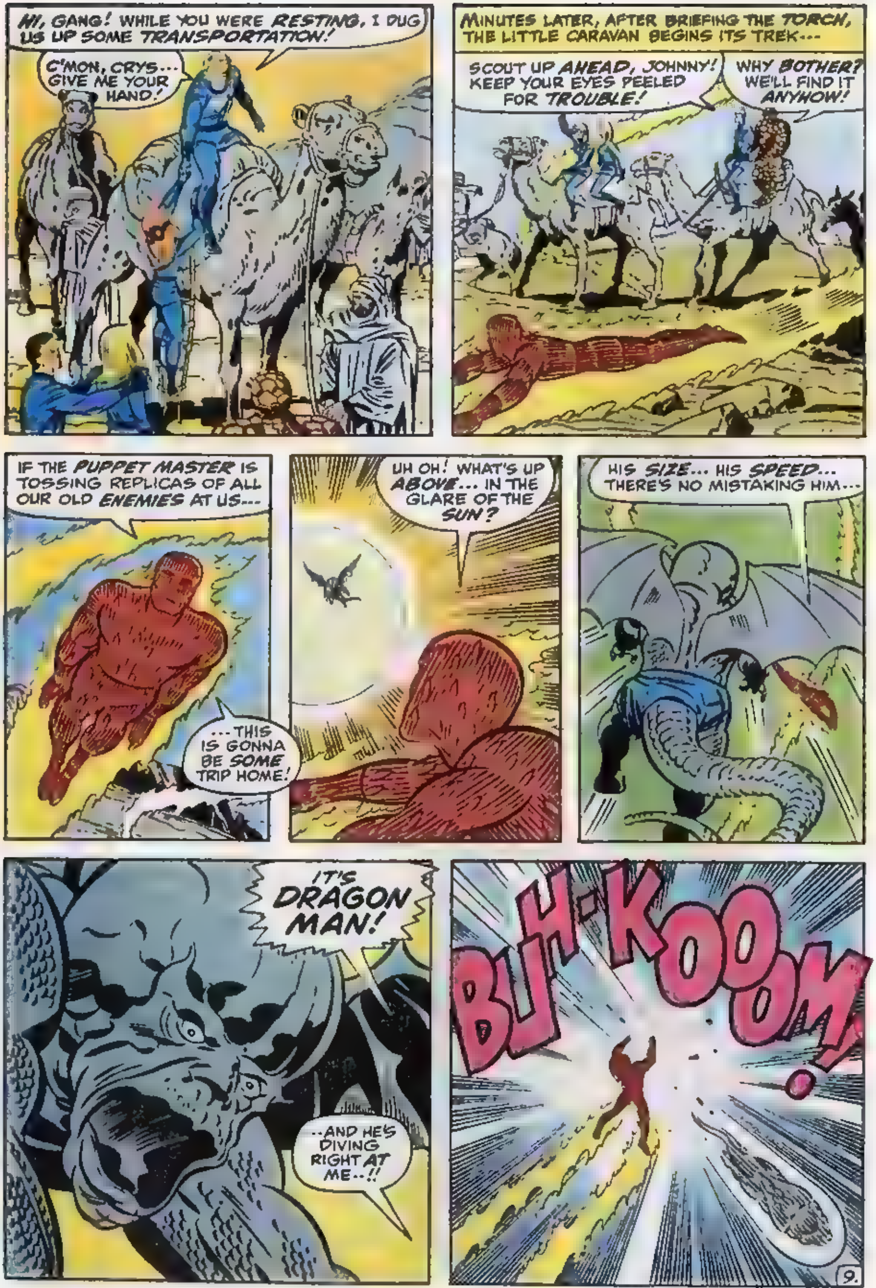
New York State Residents please add 5% sales tax


YES! THIS HAS TO BE THE WORK OF... THE PUPPET MASTER!
BUT, HOW MANY MORE SUCH CREATURES HAS HE CREATED!
FAR MORE THAN YOU CAN EVER DEFEAT!
THE SENTRY!
TAKE COVER... I'LL HANDLE HIM!
EVEN THOUGH THE ANDROIDS ARE PERFECT REPLICAS...
THEY'RE STILL NO MATCH FOR A HUMAN BRAIN!
WE DO NOT HAVE TO BE! WE HAVE POWER! POWER! POWER!
QUICKLY, BEN! THAT'S YOUR CUE!
YEAH, MAN! WHEN YA TALK ABOUT POWER...
...YER PLAYIN' MY SONG!
7

LOOK OUT! HE'S CHARGING FORWARD... TO ATTACK YOU!
DON'T KNOCK YERSELF OUT, FLATHEAD! I AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERE!
BUT YOU SURE ARE!
NOW I CALL THAT JUST PLAIN UN-FRIENDLY!
BUT, IF YA WANNA PLAY ROUGH...
YA SURE CAME TA THE RIGHT GUY, CHARLIE, 'CAUSE...
IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!
WELL, WADDAYA KNOW?
I BUSTED ALL YER LITTLE COGS 'N PINWHEELS!
OKAY, LET'S GIT US A ROAD MAP 'N HEAD FER HOME!
I'M AFRAID IT WON'T BE THAT SIMPLE, OLD FRIEND...
I SUSPECT WE'VE ONLY FACED THE FIRST FEW OF THE ENEMIES THAT AWAIT US!
LOOK! HERE COMES JOHNNY!
8



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BOYS Here's a Swell Way to Make $1 to $6 WEEKLY

in your spare time

and WIN DANDY PRIZES Too!

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Please Print Your Last Name Plainly Below

Hurry!

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Papers sent only to boys in continental U.S.A.

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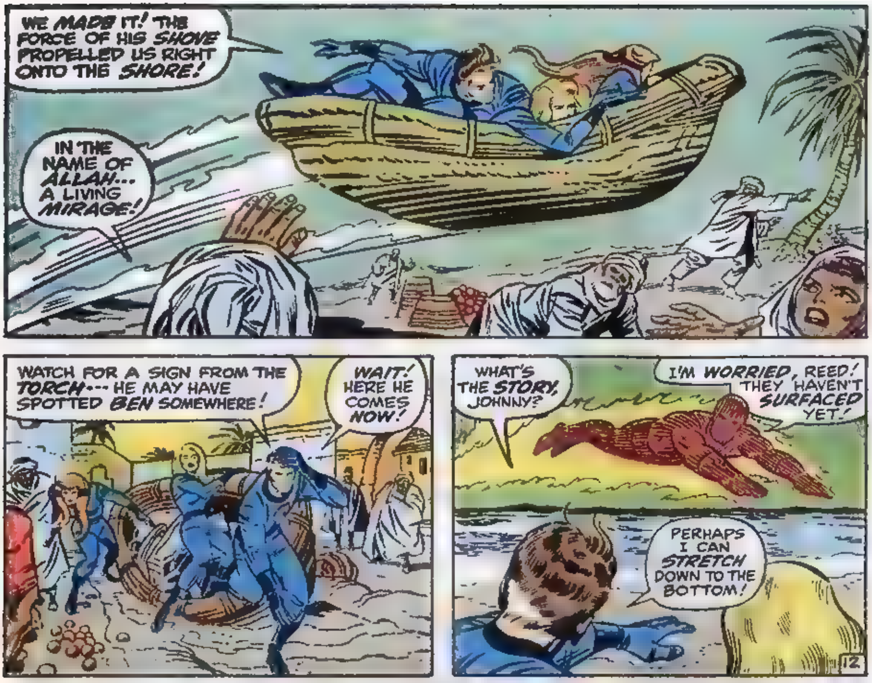
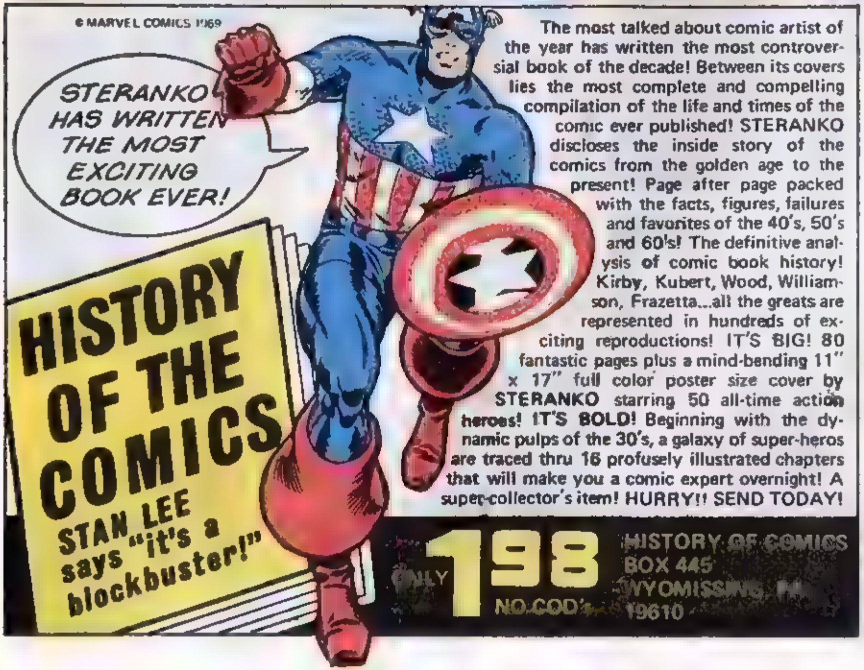
*Precision Drawing Instrument Set, Professional Drafting Board Outfit & Fingertip Tilting Drafting Table are given to you with your complete North American Course in Drafting

FALL, TORCH... INTO THE SNOW... JUST AS I PLANNED!
IT WILL WEAKEN YOU! IT WILL DIM YOUR FLAME!
THUS MAKING YOU A PERFECT TARGET...
...FOR MY MOST LETHAL ATTACK!
DON'T COUNT ON IT, BIG SHOT!
...NOT WHILE I'VE ENOUGH HEAT LEFT TO FIRE ONE LAST BURST THRU THE MOUNTAIN...
...WHERE IT'LL BUILD UP ENOUGH PRESSURE... TO TRAP YOU... WHEN IT ERUPTS!
MADE IT! THE EXPLOSION CAUGHT HIM FLAT-FOOTED!
BUT I'VE GOT TO REACH THE OTHERS NOW!
WON'T BE MUCH GOOD FOR ANY-THING... TILL I CAN RECHARGE MY FLAME!
THERE THEY ARE NOW!
THEY'RE TRYING TO FORD THAT RIVER... IN A NATIVE FIBER BOAT!
UH OH! THEY'RE CAUGHT IN A WHIRLPOOL...
AND MY FLAME'S TOO WEAK TO HELP!
10

IT ISN'T NATURAL TO HAVE A WHIRLPOOL HERE! IT... BEN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IF IT AIN'T NATCHRAL, THEN SOMETHIN'S CAUSIN' IT, RIGHT?
SO HERE'S WHERE MY AUN'T PETUNIA'S FAVORITE NEPHEW FINDS OUT WHAT THAT SOMETHIN' IS!
OL' STRETCHO WUZ RIGHT, AS USUAL!
THERE'S SOME KINDA NUTTY GADGET DOWN HERE, SPINNIN' THE WATER AROUND!
BUT IT AIN'T GONNA DO NO MORE SPINNIN' AFTER THIS!
BTAM!
NOW, ALL I GOTTA DO IS CORK THINGS UP... 'N GIT BACK UPSTAIRS!
YOU DID IT, BEN! THE WHIRLPOOL'S GONE!
TOSS ME A HUNK 'A SOAP, WILLYA?
...SO'S IT WON'T BE A WASTE!
FOOL! YOU NEVER SUSPECTED WHO PLACED THAT VORTEX MACHINE BELOW!
HUH..??!
IT'S OL' FISH-FACE... THE SUB-MARINER!
HE'S... DRAGGIN' ME DOWN... BUT I GOTTA KICK REED 'N THE OTHERS... OUTTA DANGER!
THOK!
WE... WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE THE THING BEHIND!
WE HAVEN'T ANY CHOICE ... TILL WE COME TO A STOP!
11.


WE MADE IT! THE FORCE OF HIS SHOVE PROPELLED US RIGHT ONTO THE SHORE!
IN THE NAME OF ALLAH... A LIVING MIRAGE!
WATCH FOR A SIGN FROM THE TORCH--- HE MAY HAVE SPOTTED BEN SOMEWHERE!
WAIT! HERE HE COMES NOW!
WHAT'S THE STORY, JOHNNY?
I'M WORRIED, REED! THEY HAVEN'T SURFACED YET!
PERHAPS I CAN STRETCH DOWN TO THE BOTTOM!
12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The most talked about comic artist of the year has written the most controversial book of the decade! Between its covers lies the most complete and compelling compilation of the life and times of the comic ever published! STERANKO discloses the inside story of the comics from the golden age to the present! Page after page packed with the facts, figures, failures and favorites of the 40's, 50's and 60's! The definitive analysis of comic book history! Kirby, Kubert, Wood, Williamson, Frazetta...all the greats are represented in hundreds of exciting reproductions! IT'S BIG! 80 fantastic pages plus a mind-bending 11" x 17" full color poster size cover by STERANKO starring 50 all-time action heroes! IT'S BOLD! Beginning with the dynamic pulps of the 30's, a galaxy of super-heros are traced thru 16 profusely illustrated chapters that will make you a comic expert overnight! A super-collector's item! HURRY!! SEND TODAY!
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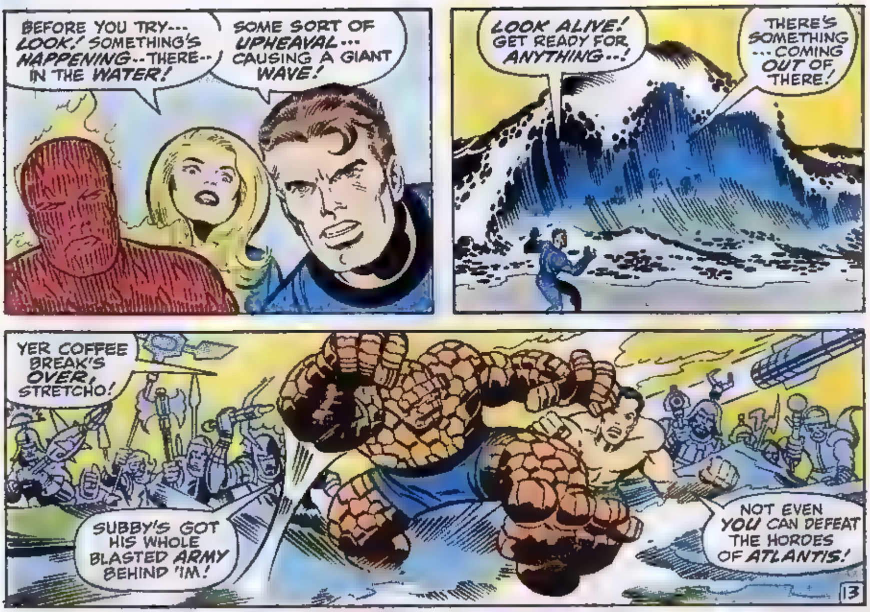
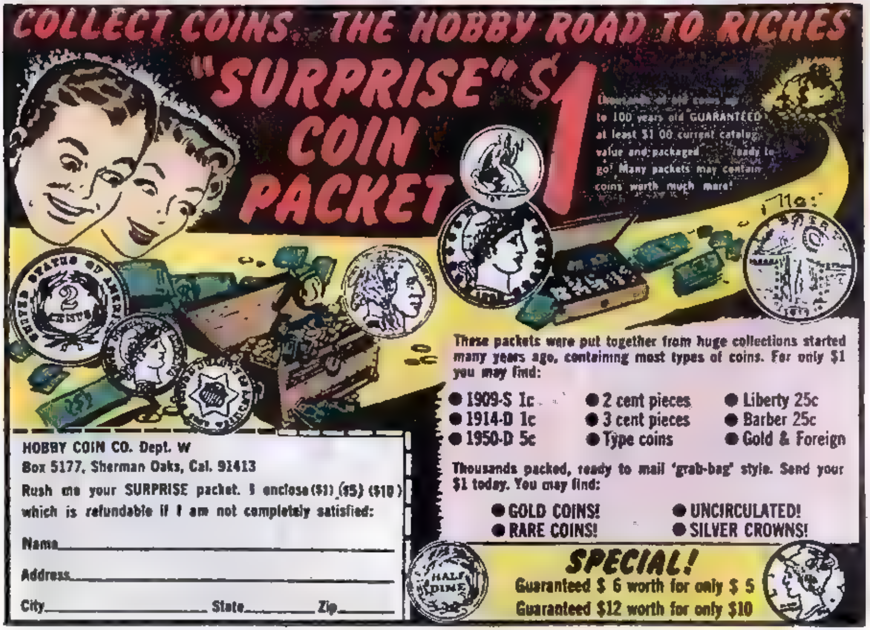

BEFORE YOU TRY--- LOOK! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING--THERE-- IN THE WATER!
SOME SORT OF UPHEAVAL... CAUSING A GIANT WAVE!
LOOK ALIVE! GET READY FOR ANYTHING--!
THERE'S SOMETHING ...COMING OUT OF THERE!
YER COFFEE BREAK'S OVER, STRETCHO!
SUBBY'S GOT HIS WHOLE BLASTED ARMY BEHIND 'IM!
NOT EVEN YOU CAN DEFEAT THE HORDES OF ATLANTIS!
13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THE HATE-MONGER! THAT'S THE ANSWER!
IF ONLY I TURNED INVISIBLE IN TIME!
BEHIND HIM ...DIABLO!
I DON'T DARE TO STOP!
THE SUPER-SKRULL... ARMED WITH A VACUUM GUN!
IT... SUCKED UP MY FLAME!
CAN'T... STAY ALOFT... ANY LONGER...!
JOHNNY... JOHNNY!
THANK HEAVEN YOU WEREN'T FAR ABOVE THE SOFT DESERT SAND!
14

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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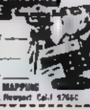

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YECHH! WOTTA CORNBALL!
HEAD DUE NORTH, BEN! THERE'S A NATO AIRFIELD NOT FAR FROM HERE!
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE FINALLY IN THE CLEAR!
... EXCEPT FER THAT CREEP AHEAD OF US!
THE RED GHOST! DON'T STOP!
HE CAN MAKE HIS BODY UNSOLID!
BUT HE JUST SHOVED SOMETHIN'... RIGHT INTA THE ENGINE!
IT'S A SMOKE GAS BOMB --- WITH THICK, DEADLY FUMES!
BUT WE'LL TURN IT AGAINST HIM!
HAH! I HAVE DONE WHAT NONE OF THE OTHERS COULD DO!
I HAVE SLAIN THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
THUS, I CAN NOW SOLIDIFY MYSELF!
THANKS, PAL! WE WUZ HOPIN' YA'D DO THAT!
... NOW, ALL I GOTTA DO IS GIVE THE GROUND A KING-SIZED WHUMP...
NO! NOOOO!
16

THANKS TO YOUR FORCE FIELD, SUE, THE GAS DIDN'T AFFECT US!
AND WE WERE HIDDEN BY THE SMOKE AS WE LEAPED FROM THE CAR!
WE KNOW... WE KNOW! WE WUZ THERE!
HEADS UP! MORE TROUBLE COMING!
THE PUPPET MASTER EVEN MADE ANDROIDS OF THE GHOST'S SUPER APES!
WELL WADDAYA KNOW?!!
WATCH IT, BEN! THE GORILLA'S AS STRONG AS YOU!
SUE... TAKE COVER!
EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS SOME SUPER ABILITY!
THE BABOON... SPINNING ME IN THE AIR...
...MANAGING TO.. WEAKEN MY FLAME!
WE HAVE TO HELP THEM! BUT... THEY'RE ALL TOO CLOSE TOGETHER!
SUE... LOOK! OVER THERE!
YOU DIDN'T EXPECT THE WINGLESS WIZARD AND HIS FRIENDS, DID YOU?
17

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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...and I'll Show You How EASILY You Can Have It." —Charles Atlas

Just tell me, in coupon below, the kind of body you want and I'll give it to you SO FAST your friends will be amazed! "Dynamic-Tension," my easy, 15-minute-a-day method, will make your chest and shoulders bulge...arms and legs surge with power...your whole body feel "alive"!

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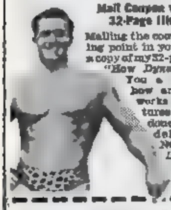

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CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 60F
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- ☐ Slimmer Waist and Hips
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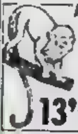

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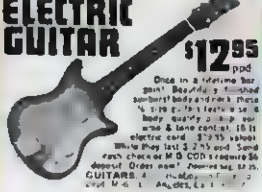

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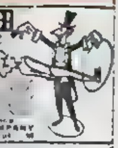

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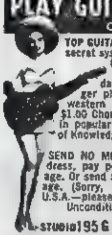

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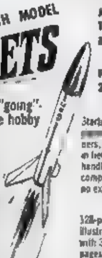

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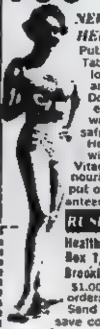

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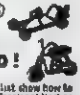

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Interviews, articles and top quality artwork by & with JIM STERANKO, JACK KIRBY, SAL BUSCEMA, JOHN FANTUCCHIO, JOHN ROMITA, GENE COLAN, BARRY SMITH, DON HECK, JOE SINNOTT, NEAL ADAMS, BILL EVERETT, ROY THOMAS, JOHN BUSCEMA & STAN LEE!! And the FANTASTIC FANZINE has them ALL!! Normally priced at 50¢ per issue, the FANTASTIC FANZINE SPECIAL is a triple sized, double priced issue, commemorating our first successful year of publishing!!

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SO EVERY ONE MUST FIND ITS MARK!
AND, IF THEY DO...
THOSE THREE BESTIAL ANDROIDS WILL THREATEN US NO MORE!
HEY-- ANYONE BEEN KEEPIN' SCORE? WE MUSTA TACKLED EVERY BADDIE WE EVER KNOWED!
ANOTHER ONE? I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THERE CAN'T BE ANY LEFT!
KEEP YOUR COOL, BLUE EYES!
IT'S JUST A NATO JET!
IMPOSSIBLE! AND YET... THEY DID IT! THEY DEFEATED EVERY ANDROID I SENT AGAINST THEM!
THUS, WE PREPARE TO USE OUR FINAL WEAPON...
MY MOST POWERFUL ANDROID OF ALL...
GO, HULK! DESTROY THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
SOMETHING IS WRONG! HIS EYES... LOOK AT HIS EYES!
19

HULK OBEYS NO MAN!
YOU ARE HULK'S ENEMY! YOU MUST BE CRUSHED!
STOP HIM! STOP HIM!
I MIS-CALCULATED THE AMOUNT OF CONTROL CLAY!
HE'S RUNNING AMOK!
HE'S TOO DANGEROUS! HE MUST BE DESTROYED!
THEN... WE'VE FAILED!
FAILED! NO! I'LL BUILD ANOTHER... GREATER ANDROID! THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING...
WAIT! HOLD YOUR FIRE! THERE ARE EXPLOSIVES BEHIND HIM!
STOP RANTING, YOU MADMAN! LISTEN TO ME! STOP!!
BUT, IN HIS BLIND, UNTHINKING RAGE, THE PUPPET MASTER HEARS NOTHING... AND THEN...
MEANWHILE, A SPECIALLY-REQUISITIONED NATO PLANE THUNDERS TOWARDS THE STATES...
WOW! WAIT'LL THE GUYS AT THE BASE LEARN WHO OUR PASSENGERS ARE!
KEEP TALKING MAJOR!
IT'S A PLEASURE TO LISTEN TO SOMEONE WHO ISN'T A PRE-PROGRAMMED ANDROID!
MAN! YOU ALL SURE LEAD THE LIFE!
HOW'S ABOUT GITTIN' SOME SHUT-EYE NOW?
GO AHEAD, OLD FRIEND! YOU'VE EARNED IT! -- I GUESS WE ALL HAVE!
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS... ALL OUR ADVENTURES... WE'RE STILL TOGETHER... WE'RE STILL A TEAM! THE GREATEST TEAM EVER!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
YEAH.. 'N I'M BETTIN' HE WILL!
NEXT: BEDLAM AT THE BAXTER BUILDING!

CANDID COMMENTS CALCULATED TO AMUSE AND CONFUSE YOU!

ITEM! Looks like it's old home week around the Bullpen once again. Two more little lambs who had gone astray have just returned to the fold—so let's hear a hearty "Welcome Back" for CHEERFUL CHIC STONE and VALIANT VINCE COLETTA! Chic, whom many of you long-time Marvelites will remember as having inked some of our earliest FANTASTIC FOUR, AVENGERS, and other great titles will now be adding his own distinctive luster to BIG JOHN BUSCEMA'S awesome artwork on the sensational SILVER SURFER. As for Valiant Vince, this talented Marvel great will once again give new magnificence and majesty to JOLLY JACK KIRBY'S out-of-this-world rendition of the mighty THOR! (And before we forget, wait'll you see WONDROUS WALLY WOOD's incomparable inking on GENIAL GENE COLAN'S action-packed presentation of CAPTAIN AMERICA! It's just too much!) Add all that to the unfailing excellence of JOLTIN' JOE SINNOTT, TERRIFIC TOM PALMER, FEARLESS FRANK GIACOIA, and our other inking greats, and you can see why Marvel's on the move again!

ITEM! Remember the little survey we asked you to answer last ish? Well, as soon as all the votes are in (probably in another couple of months), we'll announce the results in our usual courageous manner so that you can cheer the heroes and hiss the villains!

ITEM! Do us a favor, huh? We get so many hundreds of letters daily that our two gorgeous Gal Fridays, LOVABLE LESLIE DIXON and MISCHIEVOUS MIMI GOLD asked us to make this suggestion. Whenever you write to us, instead of just writing Marvel Comics Group on the envelope, how about adding the name of the mag, or the department that your letter is for? It'll speed things up real much, and the girls both thank you.

ITEM! We just had a visit from JACK (KING) KIRBY, who winged his way eastward from sunny California to rap it up with Stan about the new INHUMANS series the Jolly One will be producing in the forthcoming AMAZING ADVENTURES. Sly ol' Stan not only conned Jack into doing two yarns at once, but even cajoled the King into doing the script as well as the penciling for this great new series. So, if any of you should be injudicious enough to miss the first episode, on sale next month, don't say we didn't warn you!

ITEM! It's true! It's true! MERRY MARIE SEVERIN will be doing a new superhero feature for us once again! For all you frantic ones who demanded to know where JOHNNY SEVERIN'S captivatin' kid sister has been hiding, she's been right here all the time, helping us out with cover sketches and ideas, coloring, layouts, and many of the so-necessary although unheralded chores that keep the Bullpen bullpenning! However, now that we're back on schedule again, you'll no longer be deprived of our favorite femme's fantastically fabulous far out artwork!

ITEM! And how about DASHIN' DONNIE HECK? After saving our skins by drawing romance strips, mystery yarns, and a fill-in X-MEN or two, plus anything else we threw at him while we were re-juggling our back-breaking schedules, Ol' Faithful is finally back penciling IRON MAN once again, not to mention furnishing us with the surprise of the season—a brand new version of DOC STRANGE! (Now, if only we can figure out where to put it!)

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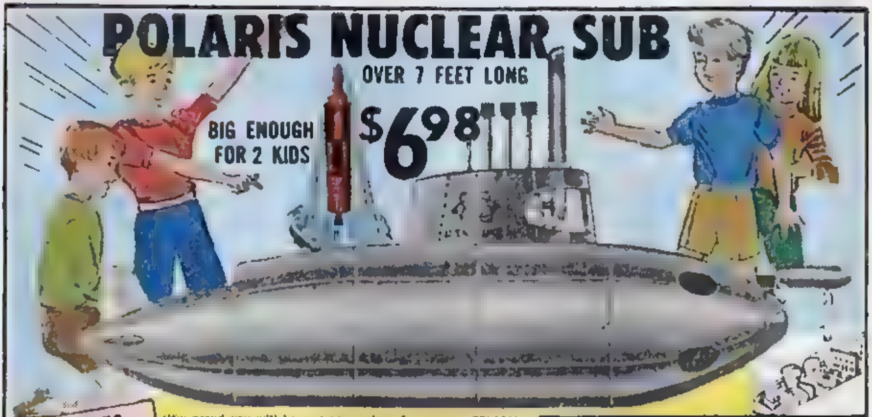
Don't worry, man!
THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST
is on another page!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Wow, I just remembered—a couple of months ago I promised to clue you in about the length of time it takes to write, letter, and draw our ebullient little epics. It isn't that we forgot (perish forbid!), but we sorta got side-tracked when our little survey pre-empted most of our other goodies last month. Anyway, better late than never (a little phrase I just made up), so here goes—and pay attention, pal—there may be an exam! It takes about half a day to create the plot for an average 20-pager. That includes the hour or two spent in discussing the various story angles by the writer and penciller. Then, the penciller begins to draw the strip, and most pencillers average about two pages a day of peerless drawing. Of course there are speed demons like Kirby, Colan, and Buscema who can whip out three pages daily—while others (who shall be mercifully unnamed) blaze along doing a single page each day. You might also bear in mind that many artists (and writers) work different hours. Some burn the midnight oil late until the wee hours of dawn, while others put in a typical businessman's 8-hour day. Finally, the writer gets the pencilled pages and usually spends about two full working days putting the dialogue and captions into a 20-pager. (Averaging 10 pages daily.) Then, the letterers can do about a page an hour, while the inkers—who are the last to tackle the artwork—take about as long as the average penciller per page. Now then, if there are any questions from the gallery—forget it! I'm exhausted from just thinking about all that work!

Excelsior!

Stan Lee



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Fantastic Four (4) Fan Page

Send letters to LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV.
NEW YORK 10022 N. Y.

A PERSONAL NOTE FROM STAN AND JACK:

As you and the entire comics-reading world know, this is the one hundredth issue of the FANTASTIC FOUR magazine. It was approximately nine years ago that the first, bi-monthly issue of F.F. burst like an exploding bombshell upon comics fandom—and promptly took it by storm. Before long, the F.F. was outselling all other magazines in our comics line—and was made into a monthly publication. Soon there followed king-size annuals, reprints of early sagas for those who had missed those issues with their lower print runs, and a host of other Marvel super heroes who while not outwardly imitative of our fabulous foursome—tried to bring some of that same realism, that same quality into a segment of comicdom that had too often settled for personality-less masked do-gooders and the substitution of gimmicks for content.

That we have succeeded, at least to the best of our abilities, has been shown by our continued support by you, the comics-reading public. And, if you'll forgive their being a bit more formal than usual, Stan and Jack hereby pledge to continue unabated their efforts to see that the F.F. continues to earn its title as "The World's Greatest Comics Magazine!" You deserve no less—and Stan and Jack can promise no more.

Excelsior.

Dear Marveldom Assembled,

In F.F. #96, Dale Shuman and Kendall dropped upon an unprepared world the horrifying news that Marvel Comics "is a fraud, a front, a monumental HOAX upon the unsuspecting mortals of our fair planet!" They are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe in anything but what they can see. They think that nothing can be, which is not natural to their minds.

Yes, Marveldom, there is a Stan Lee! In fact, there is a whole Marvel Bullpen (Heaven help us)! They exist as certainly as the pug nose on Blue-eyed Benjy. How dreary the world would be if there were no Bullpen! It would be as dreary as if there were no comic books for which we are eager to dish out our grimey little coins. There would be no childlike faith then, no web-slinging, no Asgard, and no clobbering time. (Gasp!) We would have no enjoyment except that which would find in sense and sight.

No believe in the Bullpen? You might as well not believe in Santa Claus. You might hire men to try to duplicate the amazing feats of Marvel. But, even if they found it impossible to do so, what would they prove? Did you ever think how impossible it would be to go to the moon, or to transplant a heart? Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are in the world.

No Marvel Bullpen? Thank God they live, and they live as long as we readers so desire, continuing to make glad the hearts of Marveldom.

'NUFF SAID??

Jay Sheldon, 405 S. 2nd Ave.
Maywood, Ill. 60153

You know it, Jay. And, though some of the words and phrases you used sounded just the least bit familiar to us, your liltin' letter warmed the cockles of our little hearts.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Jay Sheldon—and we're glad there is!

Dear Stan and Jack,

My dear hard-working team of the great Marvel society, fear not. I am writing in order to congratulate David Hochman, who wrote to you in FANTASTIC FOUR #95, and stated that he believed our ever-loving Ben Grimm is destined to become the normal, human Ben Grimm later in his history. I want to congratulate him for being almost correct.

I now take a shot at explaining myself. Blue-Eyes is indeed going through an ultimate change for the best. Yes, I repeat, for the best. The Thing is a less potent weapon for the F.F. than he should be. Ben Grimm believes himself to be eternally shelled within the awesome, radiation-spawned body of the Thing. But, here is where I go into action.

Mr. Hochman states that the Thing is indeed changed, and will, eventually, no longer be the powerful being he now is. But, in actuality, the Thing is growing even more powerful each day and doesn't realize it. The reason for Benjy's diminishing body is that he is absorbing his own mortal shell. Groovy, ain't it?

Let's look at it from a scientific viewpoint. (1) Mr. Grimm was exposed (as were the rest) to the brunt of a radiation belt. (2) He (like the rest) was changed in an original way to become as he is now. In the start, he was indeed very strong and did unimaginable feats of strength. (3) Mr. Grimm is losing his figure the more he fights and the longer he stays on Earth. Conclusion: The former body of Mr. Grimm was formed in space in order to allow him to survive in space temporarily. This has been demonstrated by his ability to exist in sub-space for an indefinite time. His body was formed of radiation and, as we all know, it takes radiation quite a while to die away. Mr. Grimm no longer needs his armor, so, in an astonishing way, he is absorbing it and adding to his own strength. Now, if he can just stay out of space for a while, it is a definite possibility that he shall indeed return to mortal form. However, each time he goes into space, he prolongs his state of Thing-bound misery.

Reed could reduce the absorbtion time by subjecting Ben to various sorts of exercises in order to allow him to expend energy even faster than fighting crime. This could lead to some interesting stories—if a chance arose for an enemy to get to Ben when he was in this weakened state resulting from the weakening effect of absorbing part of his own body for greater energy.

All in all, it means that Ben's body is an incubation place where the ultimate product is getting ready to emerge.

Well, that's it, I guess. So, until Johnny marries Crystal, I'm yours, do you hear me? I absolutely belong to Marvel!

Billy James Jones
Mitchellville, Tenn. 37119

Glad to hear it, Bill. We'll send bashful Benjy by to collect you one of these first days; we can always use an extra unpaid worker to do paste-ups and lettering corrections.

By the way, Stan and Jack kinda dig your explanation for the ever-lovin' Thing's condition—but, since it seems that every few issues there's some super-threat that drags him and the rest of the F.F. into the vast reaches of outer space, they may never get a chance to test it. Still, you never know. (And frankly, neither do Smiley and the King!)

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

R.F.O. (Real Frantic One)—A buyer of at least 3 Marvel mags a month.

T.T.B. (Titanic True Believer) — A divinely-inspired 'No-Prize' winner.

Q.N.S. (Quite 'Nuff Sayer) — A fortunate frantic one who's had a letter printed.

K.O.F. (Keeper Of the Flame) — One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.

P.M.M. (Permanent Marvelite Maximus) —Anyone possessing all four of the other titles.

F.F.F. (Fearless Front-Facer) — An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.

Dear Stan and Jack,

I write this letter to you not to shame you, but to offer a suggestion. In the past 10 issues or so of the FANTASTIC FOUR, I have found definite evidence that you are slipping.

It started in issue #86. The art was magnificent. However, you had said that Doom's robots are invincible, capable of withstanding rocket bursts and exploding fuel. Then you have Ben knocking a robot into oblivion with just one blow. Ben is not that strong.

In #87, you have Ben blowing a gate off its hinges—which is kind of hard to believe.

In #88, the title page showed Reed's thumb drawn on the wrong side of his hand.

Then come #90, in which Johnny was drawn looking like Reed, on page 14, panel 4. Hoo boy, that was a doozy!

#91 and #92 had no mistakes . . . but, in #93, the Torch is shown flying in airless space. But, back in #75, the Torch blacked out when there was no air (page 8, panel 2).

In #94, you showed Miss Harkness with blue surrounding her eyes on page 19, panel 3; but on page 20, the blue was gone.

In issue #95: Page 13—blecch! Monocle had his monocle on page 18, panel 1, lost it in panel 2.

Last, but not least, issue #96—on page 11, the Thinker says it's 3:49 P.M. Then, later that same day, after their epic battle, Reed says that it is exactly 3:00.

Also, the art has been worse each issue except #88.

Now, to get you out of the mess I so unwittingly put you in. The reason you are making all these mistakes and faltering is because you are trying to put out too many new comics and neglecting the old ones. So, to remedy this, I recommend that you stick with the old and forget the new. Either that, or incorporate a larger staff.

I think that my solution merits a no-prize.

Even though your comics are a little weak, it baffles me to see that Marvel still reigns supreme, that it is still the best.

Whoops, gotta go, Irving's coming. Just time enough to say, MAKE MINE MARVEL!!

Eugene Cerruti, 770 Maud Ave.
San Leandro, Cal. 94577

Gene, the one part of your letter that really bothered us was your statement that the art has been getting worse with virtually each succeeding issue. We poured over the issues in question with a fine-tooth comb (not to mention our specs) and somehow we couldn't quite come to agree with your—but we'll let the rest of Marveldom En Masse argue it out with you on that point. We Bullpen Kirby-boosters might be considered just a wee bit prejudiced at this stage of the game.

Meanwhile, we must abashedly confess to all or most of the goofs you mention—but we're not sure that it proves we're slipping. After all, this is the same World's Greatest Comics Magazine that gave the Torch two left hands as early as issue #3—and that once talked about a "reducing gas" when it meant an "enlarging gas". We may not have progressed much these past hundred issues—but at least we've stayed consistent!

Dear Stan and Jack,

To put it bluntly, the FANTASTIC FOUR has gone to pot. The "flagship" of the Marvel Group has become one of the least interesting, least enjoyable series. Although Jack Kirby is a very good artist, giving him a little too free a reign over the strip seems to have hurt it badly.

One reason may seem trivial, but I think it's important: those furshlugginer large panels Kirby's taken to drawing. I thought Gene Colan was bad when he first started drawing for Marvel, but now Mr. K. has beaten him all hollow! Generally, we see four or five panels per page, with frequent full-page panels for scenes that don't particularly deserve such treatment. This leaves room only for action scenes and a skeleton plot, pushing out sub-plots and characterization scenes that used to make the F.F. great. Please, can't Jack go back to the six-to-nine-panel pages of earlier days? I think it would improve things muchly.

Not that that's the only problem. The plots and dialogue have gotten extremely lack-luster lately. Either the plots are swiped (for instance, I saw the gangster-planet story, months before it was printed, on two different episodes of STAR TREK) or else they're standard "enter-villain, fight-villain, exit-villain" plots, with little interest or originality. The days of intriguing, involved plotting and good, non-stereo-typed dialogue—of good villains and hero-villains like Galactus, the Surfer, the Sentry, and the Changeling (from #51) seem to be gone.

But, they can come back. They might come back if you, Stan, took a firmer hold on the writing and restored the old Marvel touch. And if you, Jack, cut out using large panels and simple drawings to save time, and tried to recapture the old originality and excitement of your art. And if some new ideas in staff and story appear. For instance, I agree with Bill Getty that a tryout of Tom Palmer on inks might prove very interesting. And some really new directions in plot and/or characterizations of the F.F. might pull them out of the rut.

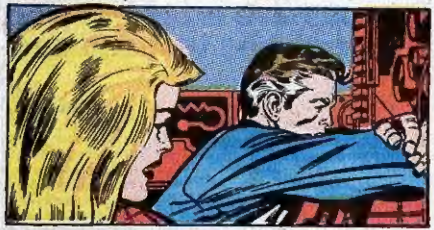
This letter is full of little but criticism, but I hope it's of the constructive type. As the F.F. passes its hundreth-issue anniversary, I'd like to see it become "The World's Greatest Comic Magazine" again. And, I think you can do it, if you try.

Bill Henley Jr., 8681 Pleasantwood St. NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720

We're working at it, lad. Although we've had few letters which were as severely critical of the current F.F. epics as yours, the fact remains that we try to look for whatever kernal of truth there may be in each and every comment we receive—and as a matter of fact, we'd already taken some of them to heart even before your letter descended upon us.

For instance, you've doubtless already noticed that there are more panels, and thus more action and more plot, in this issue of F.F. than in many previous ones—and this is a trend we can guarantee will continue in the future. Now we'll have a chance to test your theory and see if a partial return to those "six-to-nine-panel pages" you long for is just what Doc Doom ordered!

Let us know, okay?



Dear Stan and Jack,

To quote Irving Forbush: "Fair be the Marvelite who brings up a problem, but answers it himself!" Just as I plan to do now.

The problem: Why, if light can get through Sue's invisible force field, can't Sue be hurt by laser beams?

Answer: She can! BUT—let's say that Sue's force field has different degrees of strength, and, for convenience, let's label these from one to ten. Usually, Sue forms her force field at a strength we might label as nine and nine tenths. This would enable her to withstand anything this side of Doc Doom's comic-book-staple-remover! But, at this nearly impenetrable degree, her force field does let in light rays, thus making her vulnerable to a laser beam.

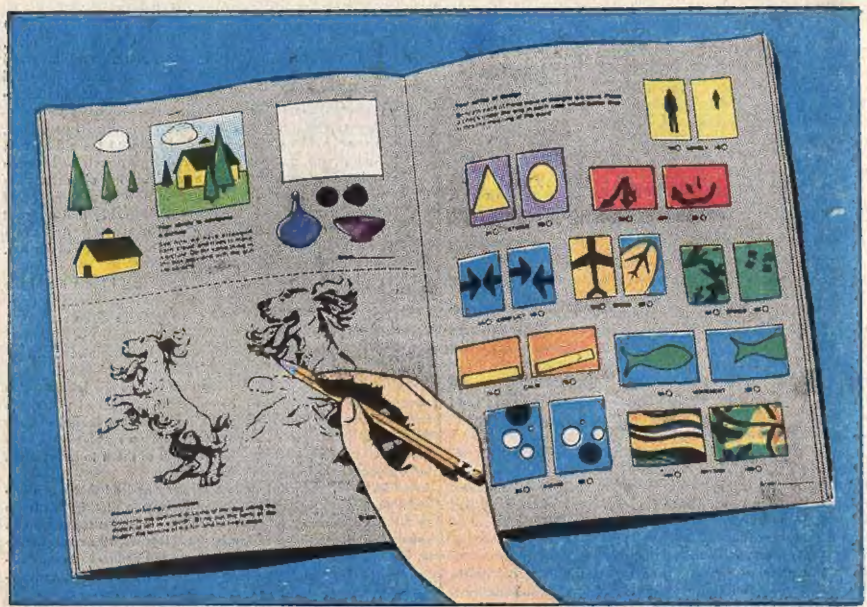
However, if Sue were to increase the strength of her field to the tenth degree—even though this might take a great deal of mental concentration on her part—then her force field blocks out light and even laser beams cannot get through to her. One result of this is that, for a while at least, Sue will be in darkness; but that's a small price to pay for laser protection!

In conclusion, let me state that it is the duty of every loyal Marvel reader to help Marvel to continue to be the scientific air-tight magazine company it is!

Excelsior!

Richard Weiss, 4 Stratford Rd.
Ben Avon Heights, Pitts., Pa. 15202

We're with you, Rich—believe us, we're with you!



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